Test 1 Training PAPER 3 Use of English (1 hour) Part 1

Task information

- In this task there is a text with 12 gaps (plus one example).
- For each gap there is a choice of four words or phrases, A, B, C and D. You have to choose the correct one to fill the gap.
- You need to read the text carefully and think about its meaning in order to fill the gaps correctly.
- The gaps focus on vocabulary items rather than grammar words.
- To fill some of the gaps correctly you will need to know how words often combine in collocations and set phrases.

Useful language: putting words in context

Explain why the underlined words do not fit in these sentences. Then suggest a word which could replace it without making any other changes to the sentence.

Tip! Sometimes a word will not fit because of something in the grammar around it.

1 Simon's brother found himself a good work as head chef in a popular restaurant.
2 You can count Harriet to be willing to help you out if you run into difficulties.
3 Don't worry to ask if you need more information.
4 The hotel receptionist will explain you how to get to the conference centre.
5 I'd love to do that long train travel from Moscow to Beijing.
6 A police is questioning the person who stole my bike.

Useful language: identifying collocations

1 **Three of the words in each set collocate with the given verb. One does not. Which are the three correct collocations?**

Tip! Sometimes choosing the right word is a matter of identifying the right collocation.

1 give a party / a mistake / a lecture / someone a smile
2 lay an egg / the blame on / the table / an excuse
3 make the washing-up / arrangements / an apology / a noise
4 pay attention / a ticket / tribute to / a compliment
5 run an exercise / a business / a race / a campaign
6 shoot a film / a target / an arrow / a camera
7 stand a possibility / a chance / trial / for parliament
8 take care / turns / a promise / a chance

2 **Now choose one of the collocations from Exercise 1 to complete each sentence.**

1 It isn't fair that they ..... you for other people's mistakes.
2 It says in the papers that four men are to ..... next month for that robbery at our local bank.
3 Paul crept in at about 2 am trying his best not to ..... and wake his parents.

4 Professor Hughes is going to ..... next week on the history of the printing press.
5 Come on, children. Play nicely. You must ..... on the swing.
6 We've chosen a new advertising agency to ..... for our latest range of products.
7 The Minister made a speech to ..... the soldiers who had fought for their country.
8 Paul usually ..... any travel ..... for his boss.

3 **Choose the correct option to complete each sentence. In each case the answer will depend on a collocation.**

1 We ..... a really great time at the beach last summer.
A spent **B** passed **C** had **D** made

2 When she moved abroad, Sarah joined an evening class in order to ..... friends.
A have **B** find **C** meet **D** make

3 The proud father was very excited when his son ..... his first steps.
A made **B** took **C** gave **D** did

4 The builder ..... our attention to a crack in the wall.
A drew **B** attracted **C** put **D** showed

5 My parents contributed a ..... amount of money to the fund.
A big **B** large **C** great **D** high

6 There was a time when the ..... person could not afford a mobile phone.
A everyday **B** common **C** regular **D** ordinary

7 The CEO will ..... a meeting with his management team this morning.
A visit **B** join **C** attend **D** follow

8 All the children at this school are required to ..... sport every afternoon.
A go **B** do **C** train **D** practise

Thinking about meaning

Tip! To find the correct option, you need to think carefully about the meaning of all the different options.

Choose the correct option to complete each gap.

1 Sally's party promises to be the social ..... of the year.
A event **B** activity **C** programme **D** festival

2 It can be difficult to have someone in your own family ..... you how to drive a car.
A learn **B** practice **C** teach **D** qualify

3 Computer programming is certainly not my ..... of expertise.
A part **B** section **C** system **D** area

4 The restaurant offers a ..... range of international dishes.
A wide **B** distinct **C** changeable **D** various

5 At the moment the country has a number of serious ..... problems.
A tricky **B** economic **C** trivial **D** economical

6 The students would find the flat more ..... if it were closer to the college.
A suitable **B** adequate **C** convenient **D** practical

Test 1 Exam practice Use of English Part 1

Action plan

1 Read the title as this will tell you what the text is about.
2 Read the whole text before you start answering the questions.
3 When you answer each question, look at both what comes before and what comes after the gap.
4 Think of a word you might expect to fill the gap before looking at the options.
5 Consider each of the options, eliminating those you know are incorrect.
6 Check that the word you choose for each gap makes sense.
7 Check that the answer you choose fits the sentence grammatically.
8 When you have finished, read through the whole text to make sure it makes sense.

Follow the exam instructions, using the advice to help you.

For questions **1–12**, read the text below and decide which answer (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

Example:

0 **A** struggle **B** combat **C** threaten **D** contest

Answer:

0	A	B	C	D
	▭	▬	▭	▭

Why people laugh

Sunday May 4th will be World Laughter Day. Dr Madan Kataria, who introduced this annual event, says we need more laughter in our lives to **(0)** ..... the global rise of stress and loneliness. But surely that strange sound that we make periodically can't be the **(1)** ..... to such problems.

If an alien were to land on our planet and **(2)** ..... a stroll among a crowd of earthlings, it would hear a lot of 'ha-ha' noises. It might wonder what **(3)** ..... this strange habit served. If we ask ourselves what **(4)** ..... a good laugh, the obvious answer is that it is a response to something funny. But one scientist, Robert Provine, says humour has surprisingly little to **(5)** ..... with that. Instead, it lies at the **(6)** ..... of such issues as the perception of self and the evolution of language and social behaviour.

Provine realised that you cannot capture **(7)** ..... laughter in the lab because as soon as you **(8)** ..... it under scrutiny, it vanishes. So, instead, he gathered data by hanging around groups of people, noting when they laughed.

He collected 1,200 laugh episodes – an episode being **(9)** ..... as the comment immediately preceding the laughter and the laughter itself. His analysis of this data **(10)** ..... some important facts about laughter. "It's a message we send to other people – it **(11)** ..... disappears when we're by ourselves," he says. "And it's not a choice. Ask someone to laugh and they'll either try to **(12)** ..... a laugh or say they can't do it on command."

1	**A** way	**B** answer	**C** end	**D** response
2	**A** make	**B** get	**C** walk	**D** take
3	**A** reason	**B** purpose	**C** idea	**D** meaning
4	**A** results	**B** leads	**C** prompts	**D** concludes
5	**A** go	**B** bring	**C** do	**D** set
6	**A** root	**B** stem	**C** head	**D** back
7	**A** complete	**B** authentic	**C** contemporary	**D** current
8	**A** place	**B** lay	**C** stand	**D** keep
9	**A** defended	**B** decided	**C** defined	**D** depicted
10	**A** revealed	**B** investigated	**C** displayed	**D** declared
11	**A** absolutely	**B** constantly	**C** undoubtedly	**D** virtually
12	**A** offer	**B** pretend	**C** fake	**D** imagine

Advice

2 *Which verb collocates with 'a stroll'? Clue: 'stroll' means 'walk' and the same verb collocates with 'a walk'.*

4 *Only one of these words does not need to be followed by a preposition to convey the necessary meaning.*

8 *Only one of these words fits in the collocation '... (something) under scrutiny'.*

9 *Thinking carefully about the meaning of the options should help you find the right answer here.*

12 *Two of these words suggest the required meaning – 'falsify' – but one of these would be followed by an infinitive and not a noun.*

Follow-up

What procedure did you follow when you did this task?